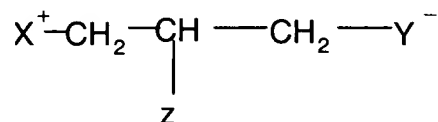


28. (Amended) A compound of formula (I)



wherein:  $X^+$  is  $N^+(R_1, R_2, R_3)$ , wherein

$R_1, R_2, R_3$ , being the same or different, are selected in the group consisting of hydrogen, a  $C_1$ - $C_9$  straight or branched alkyl group,  $-CH=NH(NH_2)$ ,  $-NH_2$ , and  $-OH$ ; or one or more  $R_1, R_2$  and  $R_3$ , together with the nitrogen atom which they are linked to, form a saturated or unsaturated, monocyclic or bicyclic heterocyclic system; with the proviso that at least one of the  $R_1, R_2$  and  $R_3$  is different from hydrogen;

$Z$  is selected from

- $-OR_4$ ,
- $-OCOOR_4$ ,
- $-OCONHR_4$ ,
- $-OCSNHR_4$ ,
- $-OCSOR_4$ ,
- $-NHR_4$ ,
- $-NHCOR_4$ ,
- $-NHCSR_4$ ,
- $-NHCOOR_4$ ,
- $-NHCSOR_4$ ,

-NHCONHR<sub>4</sub>,

-NHCSNHR<sub>4</sub>,

-NHSOR<sub>4</sub>,

-NHSONHR<sub>4</sub>,

-NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>4</sub>,

-NHSO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sub>4</sub>, and

-SR<sub>4</sub>,

C1  
Cont

wherein -R<sub>4</sub> is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched alkyl group, optionally substituted with an A<sub>1</sub> group, wherein A<sub>1</sub> is selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, or an aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or heteroaryloxy group, said aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or heteroaryloxy groups being optionally substituted with one or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched alkyl or alkoxy group and/or halogen atom;

Y<sup>-</sup> is selected from the group consisting of -COO<sup>-</sup>, PO<sub>3</sub>H<sup>-</sup>, -OPO<sub>3</sub>H<sup>-</sup>, tetrazolate-5-yl;

with the proviso that when Z is -NHCOR<sub>4</sub>, Y is -COO<sup>-</sup>, then R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>20</sub> alkyl;

with the proviso that when Z is -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sub>4</sub>, Y<sup>-</sup> is -COO<sup>-</sup>, then R<sub>4</sub> is not tolyl;

with the proviso that when Z is -NHCOOR<sub>4</sub>, Y is -COO<sup>-</sup>, then R<sub>4</sub> is not CH<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>;

with the proviso that when Z is -NHR<sub>4</sub>, Y is -COO<sup>-</sup>, then R<sub>4</sub> is not CH<sub>3</sub>,

with the proviso that when Z is  $\text{-NHR}_4$ ,  $\text{X}^+$  is trimethylammonium and  $\text{Y}^-$

is  $\text{-COO}^-$ , then  $\text{R}_4$  is not  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkyl,

their (R,S) racemic mixtures, their single R or S enantiomers, or their  
pharmaceutically acceptable salts .

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